

AzPYD History

1998-2003

The Arizona Positive Youth Development Initiative, was previously administered under the Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES), Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF), was a five-year project funded by the Family Youth Services Bureau (FYSB).

Goals:

- Encourage collaboration among the State and Local (or Tribal) agencies and communities to increase opportunities for positive youth development for young people in local communities and neighborhoods.
- Promote and facilitate communication and cooperation between the State, local communities and youth serving agencies, including Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) Runaway and Homeless Youth Program (RHY) grantees, in addressing the needs and issues of adolescents and young adults.
- Encourage an ongoing community presence and participation in the planning and execution of strategies aimed at the positive development of young people.

Objectives

Key objectives and components of the first five-year Arizona Positive Youth Development Initiative include:

- Establish of a Youth Development Task Force made up of youth and adult members.
- Establishment Local Youth Development Councils in each of Arizona's 15 Counties made up of 75% youth and 25% adults.
- Conduct a survey of Arizona communities on youth development needs, strategies and resources.
- Assist local Youth Councils to sponsor regional Youth Town Halls for youth.
- Provide Training on Positive Youth Development based on the training/curriculum developed by the Child Welfare League of America for Youth Council members, Task Force members and other individuals such as community leaders, state agency staff and staff of youth service agencies.
- Develop a policy and legislative initiative for Youth Development Programs and services for youth.
- Develop a state policy office and clearinghouse to serve as an information exchange for youth development strategies, information, programs and activities including a web site linking agencies and programs.